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UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Executive Board
Summer organizational session
New York, 26 June 1992

BACKGROUND NOTE BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON THE SUMMER ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION AND EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERSHIP, 1 AUGUST 1992-31 JULY 1993

INTRODUCTION

1. The present information note has been prepared as background for the summer organizational session of the Executive Board for the year 1 August 1992 to 31 July 1993. Under the Board's rules of procedure (E/ICEF/177/Rev.5, rule 12), the organizational session of the Board to elect officers for the Board year beginning 1 August shall take place following its regular Board session, and after the organizational session of the Economic and Social Council, which holds elections for new Board members. This year's summer organizational session is scheduled for 26 June 1992 at United Nations Headquarters immediately after the closure of the regular Board session. It will also elect the representatives of the Board to the UNICEF/World Health Organization (WHO) Joint Committee on Health Policy (JCHP). The provisional agenda for this meeting is contained in document E/ICEF/1992/L.21.

2. Participants at the organizational session will be members who will constitute the Executive Board as at 1 August. The term of office of the Board and committee chairmen is one year. Rule 12 of the rules of procedure (E/ICEF/177/Rev.5) states:

> "... The Chairman of the Board and the Chairmen of the Programme Committee and the Committee on Administration and Finance shall not, apart from exceptional cases as decided by the Board, be re-elected for a consecutive term. Other officers of the Board shall be eligible for re-election, taking into account the desirability of reasonable rotation."

Composition

3. The nine officers of the Executive Board are the Chairman and the four Vice-Chairmen of the Board and the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Programme Committee and the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Administration and Finance.

Criteria

4. The only formal criteria for the election of officers of the Executive Board are found in the rules of procedure (see para. 2 above).

5. Over the years unwritten conventions concerning elections have developed, which are generally followed:

(a) In the election of its Chairman, the Board follows three main guidelines: (i) the Chairman should be a person who has had experience in the work of the Board through prior service on the Bureau; (ii) there should be a rotation of the chairmanship between members from developing and industrialized countries; and (iii) geographical regions should be represented in an equitable manner (E/ICEF/651, para. 202);

(b) Among the Board officers there should be reasonable balance between donor and recipient nations and among the five regional groups (Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean and Western Europe and others);

(c) When the Chairman is from a developing country, the First Vice-Chairman is usually from an industrialized country and vice versa. The same tradition applies for the Chairmen and the Vice-Chairmen of the committees;

(d) The Chairmen of the two committees usually consist of one from an industrialized country and one from a developing country;

(e) Permanent members of the Security Council do not serve as officers.

6. These conventions are regarded as Board traditions. In addition, three other factors concerning the composition of the Bureau are considered desirable: (a) that women be represented; (b) that some of the officers be based in New York; and (c) that the Nordic countries are usually represented to reflect the scale of their financial contributions.

Process

7. It is customary that the outgoing Bureau members, under the leadership of the Chairman, informally discuss the composition of the next Bureau with interested candidates and regional groups in order to facilitate a consensus.

I. OFFICERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, 1 AUGUST 1991-31 JULY 1992

8. For the year ending 31 July 1992, the officers of the Executive Board, by name, are as follows:

Chairman: H.E. Miss Mira Seth (India)

First Vice-Chairman: H.E. Mr. Bent Haakonsen (Denmark)

Second Vice-Chairman: Dr. Vaclav Vacek (Czechoslovakia)

Third Vice-Chairman: Miss Maymouna Diop (Senegal)

Fourth Vice-Chairman: H.E. Dr. Roberto Mayorga-Cortes (Nicaragua)

II. PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

9. The Programme Committee is constituted as a committee of the whole. For the year ending 31 July 1992, the Board elected Mr. Frederick Ward (Canada) as Chairman of the Programme Committee and Miss Chipo Zindoga (Zimbabwe) as Vice-Chairman.

III. COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

10. The Committee on Administration and Finance is constituted as a committee of the whole. For the year ending 31 July 1992, the Board elected Mrs. Judith Springer (Barbados) as Chairman of the Committee on Administration and Finance and Mr. Hiroharu Koike (Japan) as Vice-Chairman.

IV. CRITERIA GOVERNING ELECTION OF UNICEF REPRESENTATIVES ON JOINT COMMITTEES

11. The terms of reference of the composition of the recently established United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education (JCE) were modelled after those of the long-standing JCHP. These stipulate that UNICEF Board representatives on the Committee will include the chairmen of the Executive Board and the Programme Committee as ex officio members, four representatives elected in their personal capacity and two elected alternates. Elections for JCE were to be held in odd years, to alternate with those for JCHP in even years, based on past practice of a joint committee meeting being held only biennially.

12. However, JCE met twice in its first biennium (1989-1991) and JCHP has met twice in its present biennium (1990-1992). Given the foregoing, and in the light of the fact that the ex officio members will, of necessity, change annually, the officers of the Board expressed, during the 1991 regular Board

session, their concern that a full complement of membership in such committees should be guaranteed to the extent possible.

13. Accordingly, in decision 1991/3, the Executive Board amended the criteria governing the election of UNICEF Board representatives on JCHP and on JCE as follows: "... (a) The number of elected alternates should be increased to four; (b) In electing its representatives to the joint committees, the Board should ensure the election of those who represent countries that will be on the Executive Board for at least two additional years."

14. There are no written rules governing the composition of the UNICEF delegation beyond the Board's decision that representatives may not serve for more than two terms consecutively, unless they become ex officio representatives. However, prevailing unwritten conventions developed over the years and generally followed stipulate that due regard should be given (a) to elect representatives who have experience in both the UNICEF Executive Board and in the areas of health or education, as appropriate and (b) to ensure a balance between developing and industrialized countries. The Chairman of the UNICEF Executive Board may undertake informal consultations prior to the organizational session in order to expedite consensus.

V. UNICEF/WHO JOINT COMMITTEE ON HEALTH POLICY

15. The UNICEF Executive Board membership on JCHP for the 1990-1992 biennium (term ending on 31 July 1992) is:

Chairman, Executive Board	
H.E. Miss Mira Seth, India	Ex officio member
Chairman, Programme Committee	
Mr. Frederick Ward, Canada	Ex officio member
Dr. Suyono Yahya	Indonesia
Dr. Audrey Manley	United States of America
Dr. Alfredo Toledo	Uruguay
H.E. Mr. Martin Adouki	Congo
<u>Alternates</u>	
Mrs. Judith Springer	Barbados
Dr. Edmond Nzapa-Yeke	Central African Republic
Dr. Vaclav Vacek	Czechoslovakia
A member to be named by the Asian Group of UNICEF Board members	

VI. UNESCO/UNICEF JOINT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

16. The UNICEF Executive Board membership on JCE for the 1991-1993 biennium (1 August 1991-31 July 1993) is as follows and requires no election at this time:

Chairman, Executive Board H.E. Miss Mira Seth, India	Ex officio member
Chairman, Programme Committee Mr. Frederick Ward, Canada	Ex officio member
Mr. Jorge Lazaro	Peru
Mr. Sheka Mansaray	Sierra Leone
Dr. Roger Iredale	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Mr. Mazharul Haq Siddiqui	Pakistan

Alternates

Mrs. Hirut Gebre-Egziabher	Ethiopia
Dr. Piotr Mierzewski	Poland
Dr. Adriana Lissidini	Uruguay
Mr. Jong Moo Choi	Republic of Korea

VII. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERSHIP, 1 AUGUST 1992-31 JULY 1993

17. On 29 April 1992, the Economic and Social Council, at its resumed organizational session for 1992, elected the following members to the UNICEF Executive Board: Bulgaria, Canada,* China,* Costa Rica, Colombia, Germany,* Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands* and Sweden.

18. Outgoing members were: Barbados, Finland, Peru, Poland, Thailand and Zimbabwe.

19. Taking into account the newly elected members, the composition of the Executive Board for the period 1 August 1992-31 July 1993 is as follows:

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* Re-elected.

Term of office expiring on

31 July 1993	31 July 1994	31 July 1995
Czechoslovakia	Angola	Bulgaria
Denmark	Australia	Canada*
India	Brazil	China*
Indonesia	Central African Republic	Costa Rica
Liberia	Congo	Colombia
Sierra Leone	Ethiopia	Germany*
Spain	France	Mozambique
Sri Lanka	Italy	Nepal
Switzerland	Jamaica	Netherlands*
Uruguay	Japan	Sweden
	Nicaragua	
	Norway	
	Pakistan	
	Republic of Korea	
	Senegal	
	Russian Federation	
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	
	United Republic of Tanzania	
	United States of America	
	Yemen	
	Yugoslavia	

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* Re-elected.

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Corrigendum

Chapter VI, UNESCO/UNICEF JOINT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Paragraph 16 should read:

16. The UNICEF Executive Board membership on JCE for the 1991-1993 biennium (1 August 1991-31 July 1993) is as follows and requires an election only to replace Mr. Jorge Lazaro (Peru) as a member and Dr. Piotr Mierzewski (Poland) as an alternate as these countries are no longer Board members:

Chairman, Executive Board H.E. Miss Mira Seth, India	Ex officio member
Chairman, Programme Committee Mr. Frederick Ward, Canada	Ex officio member
Mr. Jorge Lazaro	Peru
Mr. Sheka Mansaray	Sierra Leone
Dr. Roger Iredale	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Mr. Mazharul Haq Siddiqui	Pakistan

Alternates

Mrs. Hirut Gebre-Egziabher	Ethiopia
Dr. Piotr Mierzewski	Poland
Dr. Adriana Lissidini	Uruguay
Mr. Jong Moo Choi	Republic of Korea